



**AUSTRALIAN
SPELEOLOGICAL
FEDERATION**



Australian Speleological Federation or The ASF Karst Conservation Fund

ABN 15 159 919 964

PO Box 388, BROADWAY NSW 2007

<https://www.caves.org.au>

Information pack - Bequests to the Australian Speleological Federation or The ASF Karst Conservation Fund

How can I leave a lasting legacy to the ASF or The ASF Karst Conservation Fund?

By leaving a gift to Australian Speleological Federation (ASF) or its public fund, the ASF Karst Conservation Fund (KCF) in your Will, you will be playing a vital role in helping to foster the environmental aim of the ASF, namely to safeguard and protect the natural environment, specifically the cave and karst environment of Australia. In fact, your gift could make the difference between survival and extinction for some of Australia's most endangered species found in caves and karst environments.

You can be confident your contribution will be positioned where it can make the biggest difference to Australia's caves and karst. As we cannot predict future concerns and needs, we ask that you allow ASF/KCF to direct your gift to the area of greatest need at the time.

We recommend you seek the advice of a solicitor or Public Trustee when making your Will. The information in this document is not intended to replace or substitute the advice of a qualified solicitor.

How will my gift help?

There are many ways your bequest will help protect Australia's caves and karst environments. ASF or the KCF will apply your gift to current projects such as the ones described below.

Past projects included: Assisting Newcastle and Hunter Valley Speleo Society object to an application by Stoneco Ltd to construct a limestone quarry on the Timor limestone. The Court decision allowed mining to proceed, but only after many prerequisite and conditions were satisfied; the fund supported the study that resulted in the publication "Timor Caves Hunter Valley NSW" undertaken by the Newcastle and Hunter Valley Speleological Society Inc.

Funding was provided to: construct and install a gate in the sand trap section of Dogleg Cave, Wee Jasper, NSW by the Canberra Speleological Society Inc assisted by other caving groups of ASF; Southern Tasmanian Caverneers to support their re-survey of Exit Cave in Tasmania over week-long expeditions; assist with repairs and speleothen cleaning of the restricted access cave Bouverie Cave, Wombeyan which was necessary after damage from a rescue in the cave; install a bridge by Highland Caving Group and the Canberra Speleological Society over a valuable sediment deposit in Fossil Cave to protect the deposit from caving damage.

Current Projects funded by the KCF include: an investigation into the Habitat Use and Nightly Foraging Flight Activity of the Southern Bent-wing Bat using miniature GPS trackers by University of Adelaide; the Vulnerability of Australian bats to white-nose syndrome - a catastrophic fungal disease by Western Sydney University; Promote the Australian Cave Animal of the Year which was launched in January 2019 and aims to raise the profile of cave animals in the community and draw attention to the importance of caves as important animal habitat; relocating lost and incorrectly numbered caves and karst features and locate and document possible new dolines and cave entrances in the vicinity of the Kelly Hill tourist caves on Kangaroo Island using aerial and LIDAR imagery, drones, and ground survey methods by the Speleo clubs in South Australia; assessing the impact of a major bushfire on the Yarrangobilly West Deep Creek doline and cave environments and monitoring the natural recovery process by Highland Caving Group.

Future Projects may include: funding an inventory of Australian enigmatic but at-risk cave crickets for conservation that will describe upwards of ten new cave cricket species, produce an accessible key to species identification for use by cavers, consultants, and researchers alike, and robustly characterise the cave crickets nationwide.

What steps do I need to take to leave a bequest to the ASF/KCF?

The following steps may help guide you:

Step 1 Think about these questions

Before seeking the services of a solicitor or Public Trustee there are a few things you should think about and questions to ask yourself, including:

- Who will benefit from my estate?
- Talk your intentions over with your family so there are no surprises for them.
- Who will look after my estate when I am gone? This person is called an executor.
- Are there specific gifts I would like to leave in my Will, such as personal jewellery, furniture items, artwork or family memorabilia?
- Fill out a Wills instruction sheet before you meet with solicitor or Public Trustee.

Step 2 Find a solicitor and make an appointment to see a solicitor or Public Trustee

If you need to find a solicitor, simply contact your local Law Institute or Association in your State or Territory as they can refer you to a solicitor in your area.

Make an appointment to see a solicitor or Public Trustee, ensure you have all the necessary information at your fingertips to complete your Will. It will help if you take our handy check list with you.

Step 3 Prepare the wording in your will

The following wording will help your solicitor to prepare your Will.

“I bequeath [insert details of your bequest i.e. amount or property] to Australian Speleological Federation or The ASF Karst Conservation Fund ABN 15 159 919 964, PO Box 388 Broadway, NSW 2007, for purposes that it shall determine, and this bequest will be free from all duties. A receipt signed by the ASF/KCF Treasurer, or any other authorised officer of Australian Speleological Federation shall form valid discharge to my executor in respect of the [sum paid / assets delivered / property or transferred] to Australian Speleological Federation/The ASF Karst Conservation Fund.”

How can I change my existing Will?

You may have already made your Will and feel that it is satisfactory. In this case, you may simply like to add a Codicil (an amendment to your Will) setting out your instructions for a bequest to ASF/KCF. This is the simplest way to include ASF/KCF in your current Will. You will need to ensure it is signed and witnessed by a solicitor or Public Trustee.

Step 4 Let us know of your intentions

Please let us know of your intentions by sending an extract of your Will to our General Secretary. You can email our General Secretary at asf.caves.info@gmail.com.

We would like to thank you and tell you about the benefits your gift will bring, discuss your wishes with you and keep you informed of our latest achievements. By telling us of your intentions you will be helping us to plan for the future. Any information you provide will be treated with the utmost discretion.

Does the ASF/KCF have charitable status?

Yes. The Australian Speleological Federation/The ASF Karst Conservation Fund is entered on the Register of Environmental Organisations. Donations are tax deductible under sections 30–15, 30–55 and subdivision 30-E of the Income Tax Act 1997. This means that bequests to Australian Speleological Federation/The ASF Karst Conservation Fund are free from all tax (including Capital Gains Tax).

What Kinds of gifts can I make to the ASF/KCF?

A percentage or fraction of my estate

The best form of bequest for most people is allocating a proportion of their estate to Australian Speleological Federation/The ASF Karst Conservation Fund. This allows you to decide the share of your estate that you believe is right. You don't need to know exactly how much your estate will be worth as the gift will grow along with the growth of your estate.

A residual gift

You can bequest the balance – or residue – of your estate to Australian Speleological Federation/The ASF Karst Conservation Fund after your family and friends have been looked after. A 'residual gift' is the remainder of your Estate after first leaving gifts to your loved ones and payment of any other financial commitments.

A pecuniary gift for a specific amount of money

Leaving a specific amount of money is a simple way of leaving a gift in your Will because you know exactly how much Australian Speleological Federation/The ASF Karst Conservation Fund will receive, regardless of any change in the value of your estate.

Property, possessions, shares or insurance

You can leave a specific gift of property such as an insurance policy, shares, art works, land, jewellery or any other item of value.